Issue 38 – June 2012

Help Us Catch a Killer: Unknown Offender Linked by DNA in Two Separate Cases

This month, the FBI, along with Virginia State Police and Fairfax City Police, launched a multi-media campaign that includes two enhanced composite sketches of a suspect in the 2009 murder of Virginia Tech student Morgan Harrington. The unknown murder suspect is also connected by DNA to a 2005 sexual assault



in Fairfax City, Va. The two attacks were connected through forensic profile that was submitted by the Virginia Department of Forensic Science to the FBI's national DNA database. The original composite sketch was created in 2005 from a description by the sexual assault victim. The multi-media campaign includes a detailed website, digital billboards and a public service announcement by Metallica's lead-guitarist James Hetfield, appealing to the public to come forward with information in the Morgan Harrington murder investigation.

Multi-Media Campaigns Work to Publicize Cold Cases: There is an update in an unrelated case of the Potomac River Rapist, for which the FBI previously launched a multi-media campaign. In Dec. 2011, the FBI and local law enforcement publicized the composite sketch of an unknown suspect who is wanted for a series of unsolved sexual assaults and one murder in Montgomery Co., Md., and Washington, D.C., from 1991 through 1998. This month, the FBI joined MPD and Montgomery Co. Police in announcing a tenth attack that was linked by forensic evidence. This attack occurred in July 1996 on MacArthur Blvd. in Washington, D.C. The victim in that attack contacted MPD and FBI after seeing the Potomac River Rapist media campaign.

D.C. Council Chair Pleads Guilty to Bank Fraud and Campaign Finance Charge

Kwame Brown, former Chairman of the D.C. Council, pled guilty earlier this month to a federal charge of bank fraud and a second criminal charge involving a violation of D.C.'s campaign finance laws. The charges against Brown involve two separate matters. In one case, Brown admitted providing false documentation to secure two personal loans, totaling more than \$220,000. In the other charge, Brown admitted to aiding and abetting another individual, a relative, to make a cash payment of \$1,500 to a campaign worker for the 2008 Council campaign. The relative was a signatory on the campaign's bank accounts. Brown also admitted failing to disclose the relative's identity to the D.C. Office of Campaign Finance. As part of the plea agreement, Brown agreed to submit his immediate resignation from the D.C. Council.



WFO Hosts K-9 Explosives Training

Earlier this month, WFO Special Agent Bomb Techs (SABT) handled explosives in downtown Washington, D.C. They were not responding to a call-out, nor were they providing a security presentation on explosive mixtures. Instead, they were preparing for more than 80 K-9 teams from more than 15 law enforcement agencies around the region that were participating in explosives training. WFO works with regional K-9 law enforcement teams to provide one-on-one monthly training and, four times a year, SABTs invite K-9 teams to train together. New mixtures are

brought for K-9s to imprint on as well as larger quantities of explosives with which the K-9s are already familiar. Once the explosives were in place, K-9 teams went to work, equipped with years of training, a keen sense of smell and the all-valuable tennis ball as their reward.

FBI Celebrates 40 Years of Female Special Agents

Last month, the FBI celebrated the 40th anniversary of female Special Agents. In May 1972, ten days after FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover's death, there was an opportunity to put into place changes that had been brewing for some time. Acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray opened a new chapter in FBI history and announced that "women applicants will now be considered for the FBI special agent position." Today, the FBI has 2,675 female special agents, making up more than 19% of the Special Agent workforce. Female Agents lead counterterrorism squads, cyber squads, counterintelligence squads, and criminal squads and head field offices, headquarters divisions and overseas Legal Attaché offices. Learn history of female Special Agents.